Economic Overview And Outlook: Rhode Island

Jobs

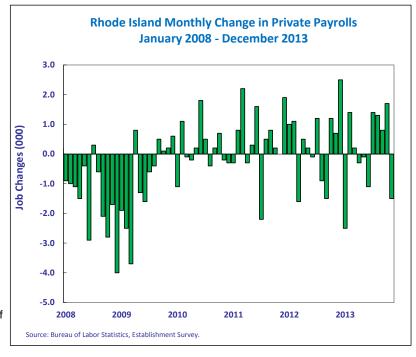
- Including December, the private sector has gained jobs nationwide for 46 consecutive months.
- In Rhode Island, private sector employment fell by 7.0 percent from January 2008 to February 2010. Since February 2010, private sector employment has grown by 3.6 percent.
- In Rhode Island, employees in the construction, manufacturing, and trade, transportation and utilities sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. Since the beginning of 2010, the following sectors in Rhode Island have experienced the greatest employment increases: professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; and financial activities.*
- As the recovery continues to take hold, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2012 and 2022. The largest gains over this period are expected to occur in the healthcare and social assistance, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality sectors. Job gains in the goods-producing sector of the economy will be led by the construction and mining industries.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Rhode Island was 9.1 percent in December 2013, up 3.1 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 11.9 percent in February 2010.
- 50,000 residents were counted among the unemployed in Rhode Island during December 2013.
- In Rhode Island, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 5,912 during December, up 2.8 percent from the previous month. Since peaking at 16,946 in March 2009, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits have declined by 65.1 percent.

EARNINGS

Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 3.0 percent. Most recently, in the 3rd quarter of 2013, total personal income is 6.6 percent above its 4th quarter of 2007 level.



Real per capita personal income (in 2009 \$) in Rhode Island was \$44,144.40 in the 3rd quarter of 2013, up from \$42,987.50 in the 3rd quarter of 2011.

Housing

- After peaking in the first quarter of 2007, national home prices declined by 18.1 percent over 17 quarters. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the third quarter of 2013, the most recent quarter, national home prices rose by 5.9 percent.
- In Rhode Island, home prices fell by 27.0 percent over 25 quarters from their peak in the first quarter of 2006. Since the second quarter of 2012, home prices in Rhode Island have risen by 1.2 percent.
- As of the 3rd quarter of 2013, 3.3 percent of all mortgages, including 11.0 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in Rhode Island.
- Housing starts in Rhode Island totaled 670 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2013, a decrease of 19.3 percent from November.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Rhode Island, sales of new single-family homes totaled 21,000 units in December 2013, a decrease of 36.4 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes remained steady at 530,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2013.

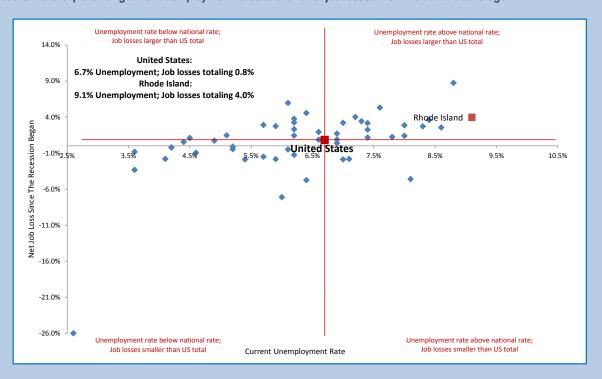
^{*} For Rhode Island-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Rhode Island office: http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/news/lfrelease.htm

How Does Rhode Island Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country were hard hit during the recent recession. Although labor markets in many states have started recovering, employment in most states still remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows you to compare Rhode Island to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within Rhode Island since the start of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession took on the job supply in Rhode Island.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant are experiencing lower unemployment rates and smaller job losses than the national average.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		Rhode Island	United States
Unemployment Rates	. December 2010	11.5%	9.4%
	December 2011	10.9%	8.5%
	December 2012	9.9%	7.9%
	December 2013	9.1%	6.7%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	. 2012	8.6%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2012	9.6%	7.0%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2012	15.7%	9.9%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 60,032	\$ 55,627
(2012 \$)	2012	\$ 56,065	\$ 51,017
Poverty Rate	. 2007	9.5%	12.5%
	2012	13.6%	15.0%
No Health Insurance	2007	10.5%	14.7%
	2012	12.3%	15.4%